

CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS CHARLES C. YANCEY AND CHUCK TURNER

RON WORTHAM

WHEREAS: Ron Wortham was born on November 17, 1939 in the City of Boston and he

attended Roxbury Memorial High School; and

WHEREAS: Wortham established Boston's first celebration of Juneteenth on June 19,

2001 at Franklin Park in Boston; and

WHEREAS: Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of

slavery in the United States. Juneteenth, or the 19th of June, recognizes June 19, 1865, in Galveston, TX, when Union General Gordon Granger announced

freedom for all slaves in the Southwest; and

WHEREAS: Wortham's annual Juneteenth observation attracts thousands of people to the

City of Boston; and

WHEREAS: Wortham, who operated a limousine service for the Davis Funeral Home on

Walnut Street in Roxbury for 40 years, recently retired and will relocate to

Atlanta, Georgia in 2010; and

WHEREAS: Wortham's son, Kenneth Wayne Williams, has vowed to carry on the annual

tradition of celebrating the end of slavery in the City of Boston; Be It

Therefore

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, congratulates Ron

Wortham for initiating the annual observation in Boston of the end of slavery

in the United States; and Be it Further

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, declares December 12,

2009 as Ron Wortham day in the City of Boston.

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President of the City Council

Attent:

Clerk of the Cit of Bosts

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Bate:

December 16, 2809